

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 19564 251800Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 /034 W
-----108931 260224Z /64

R 251625Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3436
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 19564

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, EINV, CPRS, SY, GW, US
SUBJ: DEUTSCHE-TEXACO-ERDOL/CONCORDIA (DTA) CLAIM
AGAINST SARG

REF: (A) STATE 254027, (B) STATE 244766

1. DR. E. GABRIEL OF DTA CALLED AT EMBASSY ON NOV 10 TO BRIEF US ON DTA CLAIM SITUATION. HE RECOUNTED HIS EFFORTS DURING FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S TRIP TO SYRIA AND THOSE OF GERMAN CHARGE IN DAMASCUS WITH PETROLEUM MINISTER DARWICH TO PRECIPITATE ACTION ON THE PART OF THE SYRIANS. HE LEFT WITH US A COPY OF A LETTER FROM DR. ALFONS BOECKER, CHIEF OF THE NEAR EASTERN DIVISION FOREIGN MINISTRY SENT TO DR. OTTO RITTER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DTA IN HAMBURG. THE LETTER DESCRIBES THE GERMAN CHARGE'S CALL ON DARWICH ON OCTOBER 8, 1977, WHICH RESULTED IN AN EXPRESSION OF WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF DARWICH TO MEET WITH A DTA DELEGATION IN SYRIA TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS. (COPY OF LETTER AIR POUCHED)

2. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF THE LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE, DTA WROTE A REPLY TO MINISTER DARWICH STATING THAT DTA WAS WILLING TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS AND SUGGESTING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5-9, 1977. THE
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LETTER WAS GIVEN TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN BONN WHICH UNDERTOOK TO DELIVER IT IN DAMASCUS. (COPY OF DTA LETTER ALSO AIR POUCHED)

3. ON NOVEMBER 23, EMBOFF CALLED ON BERND WESTPHAL IN DR. BOECKER'S OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO CONVEY USG HOPE (REF B) THAT FRG WILL PRESS SARG TO

NEGOTIATE DTA CLAIM. WESTPHAL CONFIRMED THAT GERMAN
CHARGE IN DAMASCUS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PERSONALLY
DELIVER DTA LETTER TO SARG BUT AS YET THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAS RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM THE GERMAN EMBASSY
IN DAMASCUS AS TO WHETHER SARG WILL AGREE TO THE
SUGGESTED DATES. (WESTPHAL'S PERSONAL VIEW WAS NOT
TOO OPTIMISTIC THAT THE SARG WOULD ACTUALLY START
NEGOTIATIONS WITH DTA IN VIEW OF PAST PROCRASTINATION).
WE WILL CHECK WITH DTA AND WESTPHAL IN A FEW DAYS TO
DETERMINE WHAT THE SITUATION IS.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CLAIMS, NEGOTIATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: STATE
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